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NPIC/TSSG/DED-1567-69  
4 April 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Plans & Programs Division, PPBS/NPIC  
THROUGH : Chief, Technical Services & Support Group, NPIC  
SUBJECT : R&D Status Report on Selected Projects  
REFERENCE : PPD/PPBS Speed Letter, Dated 24 December 1968

1. The following March Project Status information is forwarded in response to the request contained in the reference letter:

25X1 a. High Precision Stereo Comparator - The program is proceeding  
on schedule. [ ] project manager visited [ ] during this period and  
25X1 reported that the correlation subcontract is progressing as planned.  
25X1 The [ ] project manager also visited [ ] and met with Logistics  
25X1 and [ ] (Logistics Consultant) to review the site preparation plans  
for the clean room that will house the comparator in [ ]  
25X1 next monitor trip to [ ] in regard to the optical subcontract is  
scheduled for the week of 14 April 1969.

b. Automatic Target Recognition Program - Phase III is continuing on schedule with cloud screening feasibility demonstrations still slated for 21 April.

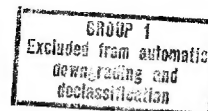
The paper work for Phase IV was sent to Headquarters for approval on 3 April. Initially it had been planned to hold contract negotiations immediately following the feasibility demonstration. It now appears that unless we are extremely fortunate to have a quick sign-off by the DDI, Comptroller, CRB, etc., there will be a funding gap of several weeks with accompanying delay in the start of work on Phase IV.

c. 1540 Light Table - Operational evaluation of the light table is continuing. The present schedule for the evaluation is:

IAS	26 March - 11 April
IEG	14 April - 25 April
IAS	28 April - 2 May
DIA	5 May - 9 May
SPAD	12 May - 16 May

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d. Dry Silver Materials & Equipment Report - The [ ] personnel are still working on a scale-up of dry silver reproduction materials and on the research of improved formulations in the laboratories.

It is expected that the program will remain within funding levels.

The latest pilot plant run of heat processed diazo film showed a marked improvement in quality of the coating.

e. Wide-Field, High-Power Anamorphic Stereoviewer - The Phase I optical design feasibility study has been completed. The final design report along with a wooden mock-up was delivered to NPIC on 2 April 1969. NPIC will now begin an evaluation to determine if approval should be given allowing [ ] to continue to fabricate the prototype instrument. If such approval is given the instrument will probably be completed by August 1970.

f. Advanced Rhomboids Model II - The prototype instrument was inspected 27-28 March and was found to be unsatisfactory. The primary deficiency involves light flare in the optical system which is unacceptable. [ ] is currently working to correct this deficiency and another inspection visit is planned for 10-11 April; however, it is believed that this schedule is at best optimistic and that the rhomboids may not be acceptable until late in April.

g. Automatic Stereo Scanner - As mentioned last month, a serious technical problem has been discovered in the optical system of the scanner. Due to an optical design error by [ ] the resolution and the magnification are considerably below the contract specifications. Currently, [ ] is searching for the best solution to this problem and will present recommendations to NPIC on 7 April. A decision will then be made on the best way to proceed. Any of the several alternatives to correct the optics will require at least several months so that delivery of the scanner will probably not be possible until late 1969.

h. Image Comparison Microstereoscope - The fabrication schedule for this instrument has slipped slightly; however, [ ] claims that this slippage can be compensated for in the assembly phase and that they expect to complete the instrument as scheduled in January 1970. [ ]

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verbally indicated in February that a small overrun may be necessary; however, there has been no official request for an overrun to date.

[redacted]  
Chief, Development & Engineering Division, TSSG

25X1

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